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PRESS RELEASE

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AIR DISTRICT OFFERS GRANTS FOR CLEANER HEAVY-DUTY ENGINES LOW-EMISSION DIESEL ENGINES NOW ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Victorville – The Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) is now accepting applications for up to \$1,966,000 in grant funds for projects which reduce smogforming emissions from heavy-duty vehicles and equipment in the region.

Under the Carl Moyer Program, funding is available to local businesses and government agencies to offset the incremental cost of replacing heavy-duty engines or equipment with new, clean technology equipment. For example, a company may be able to purchase a new truck which meets the state's minimum emission standards for \$100,000, or buy a lower-emission truck for \$125,000. The offsetting cost (\$25,000) necessary to purchase the lower-emission truck is eligible for funding through the Program.

This year, Carl Moyer Program guidelines have been expanded to include funding for the replacement of older on-road diesel engines with new lower-emitting diesel engines

manufactured after October of 2002. Eligible vehicles and equipment include: on-road, off-road, locomotive, stationary agricultural pump and forklift. Auxiliary power units used to reduce truck engine idling are also eligible for funding beginning this year.

Should total requests for eligible projects exceed available funds by May 28, applications will be subject to competitive review. Otherwise, eligible projects will be funded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Under the Carl Moyer Program, the California Air Resources Board provides grant monies to participating air districts for local distribution. This year, the San Bernardino Associated Governments provided additional funding for the local implementation of the Program, which is named for the late Dr. Carl Moyer in recognition of his work in air quality.

The Call for Projects package is available on the MDAQMD's website at www.mdaqmd.ca.gov, or by contacting the District at (760) 245-1661, ext. 5706.